

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The mold according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each guide means (14) is defined by a radially internal end chamfer of the respective axial column (13).

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The mold according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each axial column (13) carries a stop means (15) for limiting said axial displacement of the upper mold portion (20) and defining the closed mold position thereof.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The mold according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each stop means (15) is defined by a respective locking means (15).

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The mold according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the upper mold portion (20) is provided with a lock receiving means (25) to be engaged by the locking means (15) of a respective axial column (13) when the upper mold portion (20) is axially slid in the guide means (14) until reaching the closed mold position and slightly rotated around its axis.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The mold according to claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each locking means (15) comprises a pin radially projecting from the respective axial column (13), each lock receiving means (25) being defined by a groove provided in the external surface of the upper mold portion (20) and presenting an axial extension that receives the locking means (15) upon the axial sliding of the upper mold portion (20) in the guide means (14), and a short circumferential extension that receives the locking means (15) upon the slight rotation of the upper mold portion (20).

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The mold according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that it~~ further ~~comprises~~ comprising:

an impelling means (60) operatively associated with the machine structure (E) and with the moveable block (12) and which is selectively driven to displace the moveable block (12) to the open mold position against the action of the elastic means (50).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The mold according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the impelling means (60) comprises an elongated rod (61) ~~axially and slidably trespassing~~ extending through the basic block (11) and the moveable block (12) of the lower mold portion (10), said elongated rod (61) having an upper end provided with an annular flange (62) to be seated against the central region of the lower mold cavity (12a) and a lower end coupled to a driving device to selectively and axially displace the elongated rod (61).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The mold according to claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the upper end of the elongated rod (61) further incorporates an axial extension (63) onto which is tightly fitted a lamination stack ~~(PL) of the rotor of an electric motor.~~

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The mold according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each axial column (13) carries a spacer (70) that is simultaneously seated against the ~~two mold portions (10a, 20a)~~ movable block and the upper mold portion when the latter ~~the movable block and the upper mold portion~~ reach a certain minimum spacing larger than that corresponding to the ~~respective~~ closed mold position[[s]].